

PATENT SPECIFICATION



Application Date: March 21, 1934. No. 8855/34.

435,414

Complete Specification Left: March 21, 1935.

Complete Specification Accepted: Sept. 20, 1935.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Improvements in Lady's Brassieres or Breast Supporting Devices

I, CHARLES WILLIAM ATKINSON EMERY, a British Subject, of 15, Southbourne Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea, in the county of Essex, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

This invention relates to lady's brassieres or breast supporting devices.

Brassieres of various kinds have been proposed from time to time for the purpose of giving to the wearer an appearance of slimness but little regard has hitherto been had to physical and medical consideration. As a consequence most of these articles tend to flatten the breasts upon the wearer's body rather than to afford satisfactory support and thus tend to encourage mastitis.

The object of the present invention is to provide an article of this class which will support the breasts and maintain them in comfortable and symmetrical condition and while being advantageous from the point of view of appearance will also be beneficial to the health of the wearer.

The invention consists broadly of a brassiere having breast pockets and supporting straps so disposed as to set up forces substantially across the tops of the breast pockets with the result that each of these pockets is drawn close to the body of the wearer and a resultant upward supporting pull is applied.

In accordance with the invention I provide breast pockets of suitable, preferably network material carried by a body strap or belt designed to encircle the chest at its junction with the breasts and just below them. This body strap or belt is secured by any convenient form of adjustable buckle. These pockets may conveniently be made in two halves the lower of which is made full to constitute a

hammock shaped receptacle in which the breast is allowed to rest. The upper half lies flat against the breast and at each end of these upper halves shoulder straps are connected and preferably provided with elastic insertions. The strap attached to the inner, or sternal, end at the top of the right breast pocket passes over the left shoulder and that attached to the left breast pocket crosses the other strap and passes over the right shoulder the two straps crossing each other at the back of the bearer. Each strap finishes at, and is attached to, the outer end of the top of the pocket from which it started. Additional short straps are connected to the outer ends of the tops of the breast pockets and are each connected to the shoulder strap of the other breast pocket by a loop so that these short straps can ride along each shoulder strap and adopt from time to time the desired position of adjustment consequent upon the movements of the wearer.

By means of the foregoing arrangement each breast is subjected to an upward lift in opposite directions instead of having a flattening tendency. The supporting pull upon the lower parts of the breasts is in fact upward and outward from the body and inwardly in opposite directions the tendency to movement of the right breast being in the direction of the left shoulder and the tendency to movement of the left breast being in the direction of the right shoulder.

Dated this 21st day of March, 1934.

A. A. THORNTON,
Chartered Patent Agent,
7, Essex Street, Strand,
London, W.C.2,
For the Applicant.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Improvements in Lady's Brassieres or Breast Supporting Devices

I, CHARLES WILLIAM ATKINSON EMERY, a British Subject, of 15, Southbourne Grove, Westcliff-on-Sea, in the county of Essex, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the

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same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to ladies' brassieres or breast supporting devices.

Brassieres of various kinds have been proposed from time to time for the purpose of giving to the wearer an appearance of slimness but little regard has hitherto been had to physical and medical consideration. As a consequence most of these articles tend to flatten the breasts upon the wearer's body rather than to afford satisfactory support and thus tend to encourage mastitis.

The object of the present invention is to provide an article of this class which will support the breasts and maintain them in comfortable and symmetrical condition and while being advantageous from the point of view of appearance will also be beneficial to the health of the wearer.

Among examples of proposals of this kind within my knowledge are bust bodices consisting of shaped bands connected to a back the inner ends of these bands being connected to supporting straps passing over the opposite shoulder so as to exert a diagonal pull.

In another form a continuous bust supporting band was suggested shaped to the breasts with supporting shoulder straps arranged much in the same way as in my arrangement but the fact that the breast supporting bands in both these arrangements were to be made as one structure defeats the object as it is essential in order to get the desired support that the two breast pockets should be independent and relatively movable with respect to each other. To this end, as before indicated it is essential to my invention that the two breast pockets should, although connected by a strap, be independent and relatively movable with respect to each other.

My invention consists of a brassiere having independent breast pockets relatively movable with respect to each other but connected together by a horizontal strap and having supporting shoulder straps each of such straps being connected to the inner or sternal end of the remote breast pocket and connected to the other breast pocket by a secondary strap connected between it and such pockets whereby the breasts are each subjected to an inward and upward supporting pull.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated embodiments of my invention. Figure 1 being a perspective view of one form of the device and Figure 2 a similar view of a somewhat simplified arrangement. Referring to these drawings and particularly to Figure 1 it will be seen that the invention consists broadly of a brassiere having breast pockets and supporting straps so disposed as to set up forces diagonally and inwardly across the

body substantially across the tops of the breast pockets so that each of these pockets is drawn close to the body of the wearer and a resultant diagonally inward and upward supporting pull is applied.

That is to say: I provide breast pockets 1 of suitable, preferably network material carried by a horizontal body strap or belt 2 designed to encircle the chest at its junction with the breasts and just below them. This body strap or belt is secured by any convenient form of adjustable buckle 3. These pockets may conveniently be made in two halves the lower of which is made full to constitute a hammock-shaped receptacle in which the breast is allowed to rest. The upper half lies flat against the breast and at each end of these upper halves shoulder straps 4 are connected and preferably provided with elastic insertions 5. The strap attached to the inner, or sternal, end at the top of the right breast pocket passes over the left shoulder and that attached to the left breast pocket crosses the other strap and passes over the right shoulder the two straps crossing each other at the back of the wearer. Each strap finishes at, and is attached to, the outer end 6 of the top of the pocket from which it started. Additional short secondary straps 7 which diverge from the main shoulder straps are connected to the outer ends of the tops of the breast pockets and are each connected to the shoulder strap of the other breast pocket by a loop 8, in the example shown in Fig. 1, so that these short straps can ride along each shoulder strap and adopt from time to time the desired position of adjustment consequent upon the movements of the wearer.

Figure 2 illustrates a somewhat simpler arrangement on the same general principle. In this case the breast pockets 1 are connected at the front by a light horizontal strap 8a and the top outer upper ends of these breast pockets are connected, when the device is in use, by an elastic belt 9 buttoned at 10 which belt passes around the back of the wearer. Shoulder straps 11 are also connected to this belt at the back by the buttons 12 and the front ends 13 of these straps 11 are each connected to the inner or sternal ends of the remote breast pocket, while secondary diverging straps 14 are connected between the straps 11 and the breast pocket on the same side. That is to say, that one of the straps 14 connected to the shoulder strap passing over the right shoulder is attached to the right breast pocket and that one of the straps 14 connected to the left shoulder strap is connected to the left breast pocket.

In both of these arrangements the straps have diverging ends and exert a diagonal pull across the top of the breast pockets the effect being to tend to cause
5 each of the pockets to be drawn close to the body of the wearer with a resultant diagonally inward and upward pull.

By means of the foregoing arrangement each breast is subjected to an
10 independent upward lift in opposite directions instead of having a flattening tendency. The supporting pull upon the lower parts of the breasts is in fact upward and outward from the body and
15 inwardly in opposite directions the tendency to movement of the right breast being in the direction of the left shoulder and the tendency to movement of the left breast being in the direction of the
20 right shoulder.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I
25 claim is:—

1. A brassiere having independent breast pockets relatively movable with respect to each other but connected together by a horizontal strap and having supporting shoulder straps each of said
30 straps being connected to the sternal end of the remote breast pocket and connected to the other breast pocket by a secondary strap connected between it and such
35 pocket whereby the breast are each subjected to an inward and upward supporting pull.

2. The improved brassiere substantially as described with reference to Figure 1
40 of the drawings.

3. The improved brassiere substantially as described with reference to Figure 2 of the drawings.

Dated this 21st day of March, 1935.

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

